

# Missouri River

## RECOVERY PROGRAM

2008-07

### **MRRIC Charter Signed!**

On July 1, 2008, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, the Honorable John Paul Woodley, signed Implementation Guidance for Section 5018 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007. The Guidance was signed at a meeting of the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) Planning Group, held in St. Louis, Mo.

By signing the Guidance, Mr. Woodley approved the MRRIC Charter and established the Committee. The guidance also gives approval for the Section 5018 study that will lead to the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP).

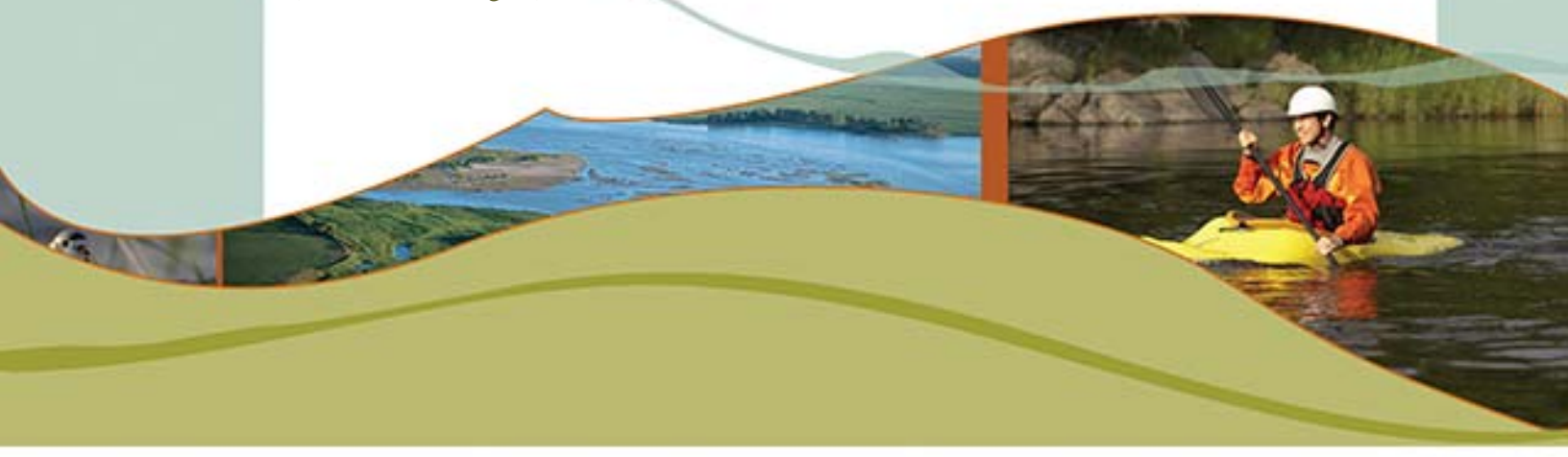
Approval of the MRRIC Charter is the culmination of over a year of intense work by the MRRIC Planning Group, a broadly representative group of Missouri River basin Tribes, states and diverse stakeholder interests, to develop a Recommended Charter for the Committee. Federal agencies in the basin also participated in the process by forming a Federal Working Group to assist the Planning Group. The effort benefited from the guidance and facilitation assistance provided by the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution and its contractor, Ruth Siguenza and Associates.

WRDA 2007 required that the MRRIC be established to provide guidance to the Secretary on the study and to provide recommendations and guidance to the Secretary about Missouri River recovery and mitigation activities already underway. The Committee will include representatives of federal agencies, Tribes, states and other non-governmental stakeholders.

The selection process for stakeholder representation on the Committee will begin shortly. Federal, tribal and state representatives will be appointed by their respective agencies, tribal chairmen or presidents, or governors.

The Implementation Guidance delegated the authority to implement the Charter, select and appoint members, and administrate and support the Committee to the Commander of Northwestern Division of the Corps. Following the selection of members, the real business of integrating the social values of the basin into the recovery work and providing guidance on the study will begin. The first meeting of the MRRIC will be held on or before October 1, 2008, as set by the Charter.

(Continued on Page 2)



*continued...*

### **MRRIC Charter, cont.**

Approval of the MRRIC Charter marks the end of one challenge and the beginning of a new way of interaction between decision-makers and the people affected by those decisions. Many thanks to all who participated in this historic endeavor, and best wishes for continued success.

The approved Charter, signed Implementation Guidance and Section 5018 of WRDA 2007 can be found on the MRRIC page of the Missouri River Recovery Program's Web site:

<http://www.moriverrecovery.org/mrrp/f?p=136:3:640415620072059::NO>.

---

### **Sediment Study Team Chosen**

A team has been chosen for a National Academy of Science Study on Sediment Issues entitled "Missouri River Recovery and Associated Sediment Management Issues." Laura Ehlers is the project lead. Please see the below link for more information:

<http://www8.nationalacademies.org/cp/committeeview.aspx?key=48946>.

More details will be included in next month's bulletin.

#### **Team Members:**

Dr. Leonard A. Shabman - (Chair) - Resources for the Future, Inc.  
Dr. William E. Dietrich - University of California, Berkeley  
Dr. Thomas Dunne - University of California, Santa Barbara  
Dr. David L. Galat - University of Missouri-Columbia  
Dr. William L. Graf - University of South Carolina  
Dr. Rollin H. Hotchkiss - Brigham Young University  
Dr. W. Carter Johnson - South Dakota State University  
Dr. Patricia F. McDowell - University of Oregon  
Dr. Robert H. Meade - U.S. Geological Survey  
Mr. Roger K. Patterson - Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Dr. Nicholas Pinter - Southern Illinois University at Carbondale  
Dr. Sujoy B. Roy - Tetra Tech, Inc.  
Dr. Donald Scavia - University of Michigan  
Ms. Sandra B. Zellmer - University of Nebraska-Lincoln

---

### **MRERP Reaches out to Tribes**

A team representing both MRRP and the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP) staffed a booth and made a presentation at the National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management this June in Billings, Mont. The team established contacts with tribal members and discussed establishing MRERP as a talking point at upcoming tribal natural resource management meetings within the basin.

---

### **Real Estate Update**

The Real Estate Team of the MRRP has closed on the following pieces of real estate. These areas can now be used to create new habitat for native river species.

- Cora Island in St. Charles County, Mo., 1236 acres
- Tammerlane Bend in Carroll County, Mo., 362 acres
- Brownville Bend, Nemaha County, Neb., 89.90 acres